

January 28, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The intention of this letter is so that I may express my feelings about the antitrust suit against Microsoft, and the settlement that was reached last November that ended that suit. The Department of Justice and Microsoft agreed to terms on a proposed settlement, and I support that proposition.

I do believe however, that Microsoft should have been left alone in the first place. There are many other corporations that should have received the attention from the government that Microsoft did. There are terms in the settlement that go a little far, especially the ones that force Microsoft to turn over their intellectual property to competitors. They will be documenting various interfaces and source code that is internal to the Windows' operating system, and giving that to their competitors. This is a travesty of justice.

The antitrust suit against Microsoft was uncalled for, but I guess that the settlement is the best thing that could have happened. It could have been much worse. I support the settlement because I do not wish to see any further legal action taken against Microsoft.

This entire law suit was brought about because of sour grapes on the part of a few people, namely Sunmicro system's CEO. With his connections with a few Senators, namely Warren Hatch from Utah, He was able to get a senate hearing, and the rest is history.

Gosh darn it, the Federal Government can do us a great deal more good by going after such corporations as big oil. Look at what they are doing with the price of oil, at this very moment, with market control of prices almost varying by zip code. And they talk of Bill ~~gouging~~ the public for his Windows programs and getting by with it due to a lack of competition - please, give me a break.

Sincerely,



Harry Riddle
P.O. Box 88
No. Lakewood, WA 98259